Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CPR-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 IO-13 /096 W

R 110808Z JUL 78 FM AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 733 INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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E.O. 11652 GDS TAGS: PEPR, MA, KN, KS SUBJ: NORTH KOREAN ATTACKS ON U.S.

REF: A) USINFO P 231444Z JUNE 78; B) STATE 085102; C) STATE 172826

1. THE MONTH OF SOLIDARITY WITH NORTH KOREA WAS OFFICIALLY KICKED OFF THIS YEAR, AS IT WAS IN 1977, BY A TELEVISEN SPEECH BY THE NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR ON JULY THE 5TH. UNLIKE LAST YEAR, HOWEVER, THIS SPEECH WAS NOT ACCOMPANIED BY A SUPPORTING MALAGASY STATEMENT - LAST YEAR THE FOREIGN MINISTER SPOKE BEFORE THE AMBASSADOR - AND IT WAS NOT PRINTED IN THE OFFICIAL PRESS BULLETIN.

2. ON JULY 7 I SENT A NOTE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY REFERRING BOTH TO THE NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR'S SPEECH AND TO A NORTH KOREAN ARTICLE WHICH HAD APPEARED IN THE OFFICIAL PRESS BULLETIN ON JUNE 29, POINTING OUT THAT BOTH THESE ITEMS SERIOUSLY DEFORMED U.S. POLICY TOWARD KOREA. I ENCLOSED WITH THE NOTE A SPECIAL ITEM IN FRENCH PREPARED BY USICA WASHINGTON (REF A) ON THE HISTORY OF U.S. ACTIONS AND POLICIES IN KOREA, CONFIDENTIAL

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REQUESTING THAT IT BE GIVEN EQUAL TREATMENT WITH THE NORTH KOREAN DOCUMENTS ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE MALAGASY PEOPLE HAD AN INTEREST IN HEARING U.S. POLICY EXPLAINED BY AMERICANS RATHER THAN THEIR WORST DETRACTORS.

3. DEPENDING UPON THE REACTION THIS NOTE GETS AND ACCORDING TO AUTHORIZATION PREVIOUSLY GRANTED (REF B)

I MAY DECIDE TO CALL A PRESS CONFERENCE TO DISTRIBUTE THIS DOCUMENT DIRECTLY TO THE PRESS AND ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS. I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP THE PRESSURE UP ON THIS ISSUE AS A REMINDER TO THE MALAGASY AUTHORITIES OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE LESS THAN GOOD STATE OF RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. WHICH THEY PROFESS TO DEPLORE AND TRY TO BLAME ON US.

4. LATEST POLICY STATEMENT AND GUIDANCE (REF C)
WOULD BE HIGHLY USEFUL TO ME AT SUCH A PRESS CONFERENCE. IS THERE ANY POSSIBILITY OF GETTING
SANITIZED VERSION IN FRENCH FOR USE AS TALKING POINTS
OR TO DISTRIBUTE? NOTES, COMMUNICATIONS, DOCUMENTS REFERRED
TO BEING POUCHED.BARRETT

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Message Attributes

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